



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

300 Park Avenue, Suite 303 East  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
[www.fallschurchva.gov/News](http://www.fallschurchva.gov/News)

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**CONTACT**

Susan Finarelli or Amy Betor  
703-248-5003 (TTY 711)  
[publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov)

## **City of Falls Church to Enter Mediation with Fairfax Water**

The City of Falls Church, Fairfax Water, and Fairfax County have agreed to mediation over terms for a possible sale of the Falls Church Water Utility to Fairfax Water. Magistrate Judge Theresa Carroll Buchanan set the mediation for November 8. Mediation was not mandated by the court, but rather mutually agreed upon by all parties prior to requesting a mediator.

“This is a good-faith effort by the City to continue our long history of regional cooperation,” said Vice Mayor David Snyder. “The City will enter mediation in the best interests of its water customers, taxpayers, and utility employees.”

“Our goal is to find a mutually acceptable resolution that recognizes the City’s investments in its Water Utility assets that have provided safe, dependable drinking water for more than 80 years,” said Ira Kaylin, Council Member and member of the City Public Utility Commission.

The City met with Fairfax County and Fairfax Water in July to discuss a possible sale of the City’s system. The parties did not agree on the terms of sale and the negotiations ended in early August.

The City’s U.S. District Court case regarding Fairfax County’s water ordinance has been continued to December 6 to allow for mediation.

### **About the Falls Church Water Utility**

The Falls Church Water Utility currently provides water service to McLean, Tysons Corner, and Merrifield as well as the City of Falls Church. Falls Church Water has an 80 year track record of excellent water service with rates below average for the region and in the bottom quartile statewide.

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